

A nighttime photograph of a dense urban skyline, likely Los Angeles. Several tall skyscrapers are visible, their windows glowing with warm yellow and orange light. The sky is dark, and the overall scene conveys a sense of a bustling city at night.

# **Is Los Angeles Experiencing a Crime Bump?**

June 29, 2018

**Downtown LA** had the most assaults, with 174.  
This number rose from 154 in April and 119 a year ago.

**46%** Increase in Assaults Year-Over-Year

# Theft From A Vehicle

Again, **Downtown LA** tops the list, with 143 in May 2018.

**62.5%** Increase Year-Over-Year



facebook

## DTLA Town Square ▾

🌐 Public Group • 2.9K Members



About

Discussion



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Photos



Josh Albrektson created a poll in DTLA Town Square.  
August 10, 2017 · 🌐

I'm gonna try again to make a poll that makes sense.  
Regarding safety in DTLA

☒ I feel LESS safe today than I did 6 months ago ...

  73 votes

☐ I feel NO DIFFERENCE in safety over the last 6 months ...

  45 votes

☐ I feel MORE safe today than I did 6 months ago ...

  7 votes

+ Add a poll option...

 Like

 Comment

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58% of DTLA Respondents  
feel LESS safe than they  
did 6-months prior.

Poll Created by Josh Albrektson

August 10, 2017



Danny Johnson ▶ DTLA Town Square



January 23 · 🌐

Downtown is losing some great people. Friends I have encouraged to move down have left recently or are now leaving. Incidents happen every single day multiple times a day on Spring Street 24 hours a day. Been downtown 15 years and I can honestly say I don't enjoy day to day life anymore. I worry every time I step on the street and I'm not a timid guy. Not sure why I'm posting this, it feels pointless.



Like



Comment



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“Incidents happen every single day (on Spring St.)...Been downtown 15 years and I can honestly say I don't enjoy day to day life anymore. I worry every time I step on the street...”

- Danny Johnson

Spring Street - January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018



Deisy Suarez ► DTLA Town Square



February 6 · 🌐

One of my closest friends just got robbed on 6th Street historic core. (More details to follow)

She was hit & pushed to the floor by an African American male that then grabbed her purse and took off.

She's too shaken to even deal with the cops, she's now home crying and dealing with her emotions and trauma.

This place has become more intolerable over the past 2 years, she's one of the long term residents, over 13 years but she's also giving up on the fight she can't take it anymore.

Dear neighbors, please stay safe.

“One of my closest friends just got robbed...she's one of the long term residents, over 13 years but...she can't take it anymore.

- Deisy Suarez

6<sup>th</sup> Street - February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

  **Josh Albrektson** shared a link to the group: **DTLA Town Square.**   
October 16, 2017 · 

I moved out of DTLA because a homicide that happened near my place. I always used to look at the LA Times homicide map and in past years the murders were localized to Skid Row. Nowadays you are starting to get some outside of Skid Row.



LADOWNTOWNNEWS.COM

**Homicides Spike in Downtown**

DTLA - Just before 3 a.m. on Sept. 22, a homeless man was beaten to death in the Historic Core. The body of 61-year-old Donald Sandstrom...

 Like  Comment  Share

“I moved out of DTLA because a homicide that happened near my place.”

- Josh Albrektson

October 16, 2017



About four years ago (back when the quality of DTLA life had started to seriously slip), I'd been accosted two days in a row by the same meth head...once on 4th between Spring and Main (I swung at him with the bag of garlic and ginger I'd bought at Grand Central, and he ran), and again the very next day in front of the Spring Arcade Famima.

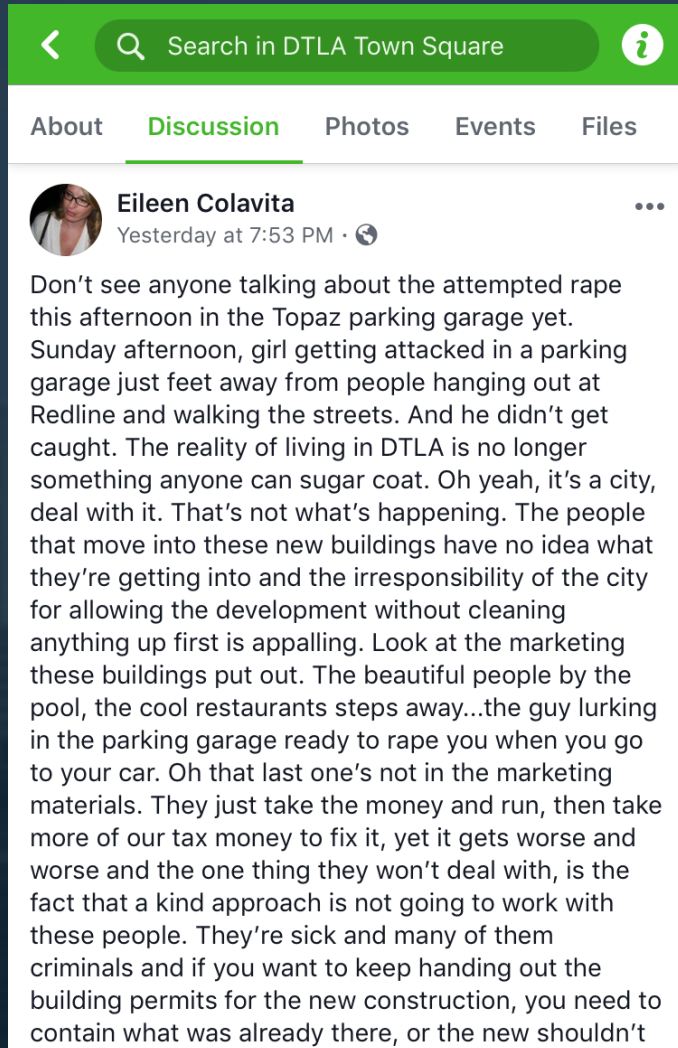
I took my mom's brass duck-head cane with me the day after that, and asked a cop in front of me in line at Starbucks what my liability would be if I used it to defend myself. He said that, if I carried it like I was using it as a cane and had to hit an attacker with it, I'd be fine. But if I carried it like a weapon (say, across my body), I'd be considered the threat.

But 2018 is feeling far more dangerous than 2014, and I'm often tempted to carry one of these in addition to my little vial of pepper spray. If I *\*was\** carrying the cane or the bat or the putter, and the guy who slammed the girl to the ground yesterday came at me, and I couldn't get out of his way, and hit him before he hit me...what would my liability be? **Slo Martinez?** **Sarge Flanagan?** **Deon Joseph?**

“About four years ago...I’d been accosted two days in a row by the same meth head...2018 is feeling far more dangerous than 2014...”

- Alexandra Leh

4<sup>th</sup> & Spring - May 4<sup>th</sup> 2018



“Don’t see anyone talking about the attempted rape this afternoon...The reality of living in DTLA is no longer something anyone can sugar coat...The people that move into these new buildings have no idea what they’re getting into...”

- Eileen Colavita

Topaz Parking Garage - Main & 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
August 5<sup>th</sup> 2018



Nathasha Loos ► DTLA Town Square



3 hrs · 🌐

Just witnessed an altercation at 7th and Spring. One guy threw a flaming bottle at another guy. It hit the ground and exploded. Happened right in front of us. We would have been hit if we didn't run.



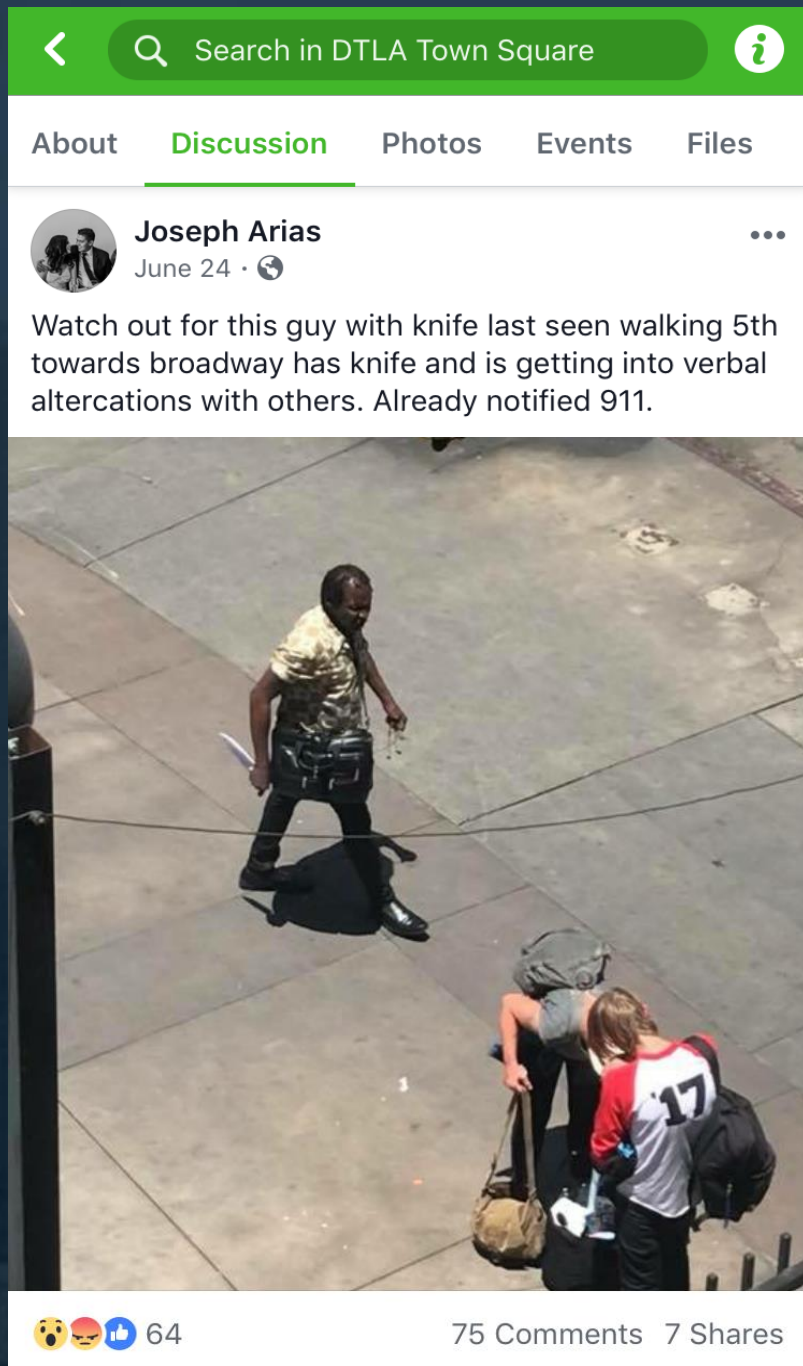
🤯 👍 😡 49

41 Comments 2 Shares

“Just witnessed an altercation... One guy threw a flaming bottle at another guy. It hit the ground and exploded. Happened right in front of us.”

- Nathasha Loos

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring Street – March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018



“Watch out for this guy  
with knife last seen walking  
5<sup>th</sup> towards Broadway...(He)  
is getting into verbal  
altercations with others.”

- Joseph Arias

5th & Broadway - June 24th 2018

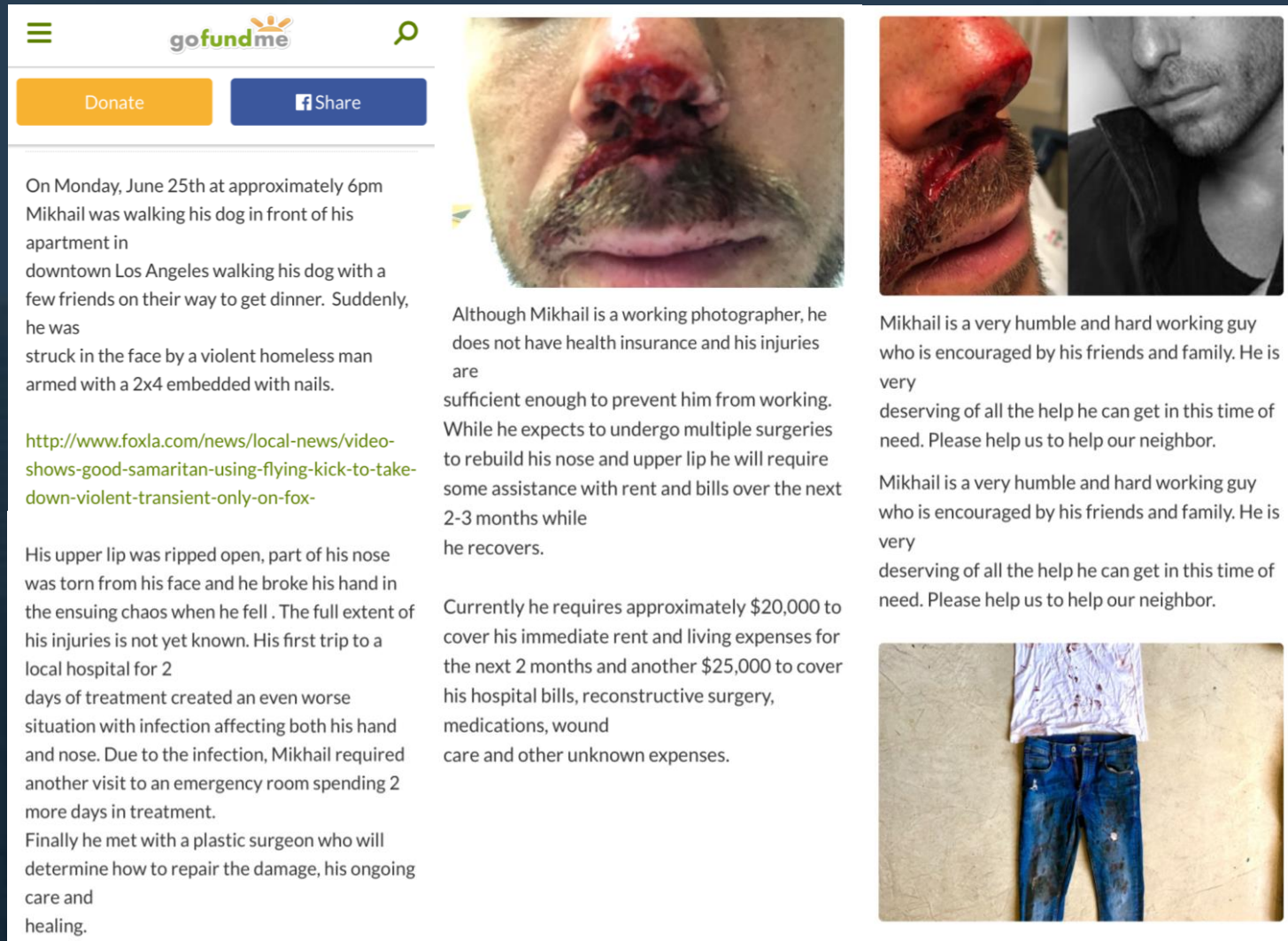


“I understand someone was stabbed in alley behind Spring St... This makes 2<sup>nd</sup> stabbing in 1 week!...

UPDATE: The Female victim died from her attack behind City Lofts Alley.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - January 13<sup>th</sup> 2018



“...he was stuck in the face by a violent homeless man armed with a 2x4 embedded with nails.”

- Victim's GoFundMe Page

## 6<sup>th</sup> & Spring - June 25<sup>th</sup> 2018

<  **Matt Britos** ▶ DTLA Town Square ...  
January 6 · 🌐

6th and Broadway. Two guys fighting and guy gets stabbed. I don't know all the details. I arrived once one of the men was on the floor getting slapped by the other man. Cops arrived shortly.



Write a comment...



“Two guys fighting and  
guy gets stabbed.”

- Matt Britos

6<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - January 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

<  **All Eyes On Me: Los Angeles** May 30 · 🌐 ...

A man became erratic and disorientated with two knives in each hand on 7th and Broadway... when LAPD pulled up with shot guns, I chased the suspect on foot as he fled on foot through St. Vincent's Court towards Pershing square. The end result.



 Like     Comment     Share

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“A man became erratic and disoriented with two knives in each hand...”

- All Eyes On Me  
7<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - May 30<sup>th</sup> 2018



Brandon Coen ► DTLA Town Square



May 3 · 🌐

This happened around 2:30 this afternoon in front of SB Grand. This piece of shit hit this poor girl and then hit me. Luckily I was able to follow him down Broadway to 7th where the police arrested him. Do any of you know this girl? I have an incident report if she would like to press charges as well. I'm hoping she does!

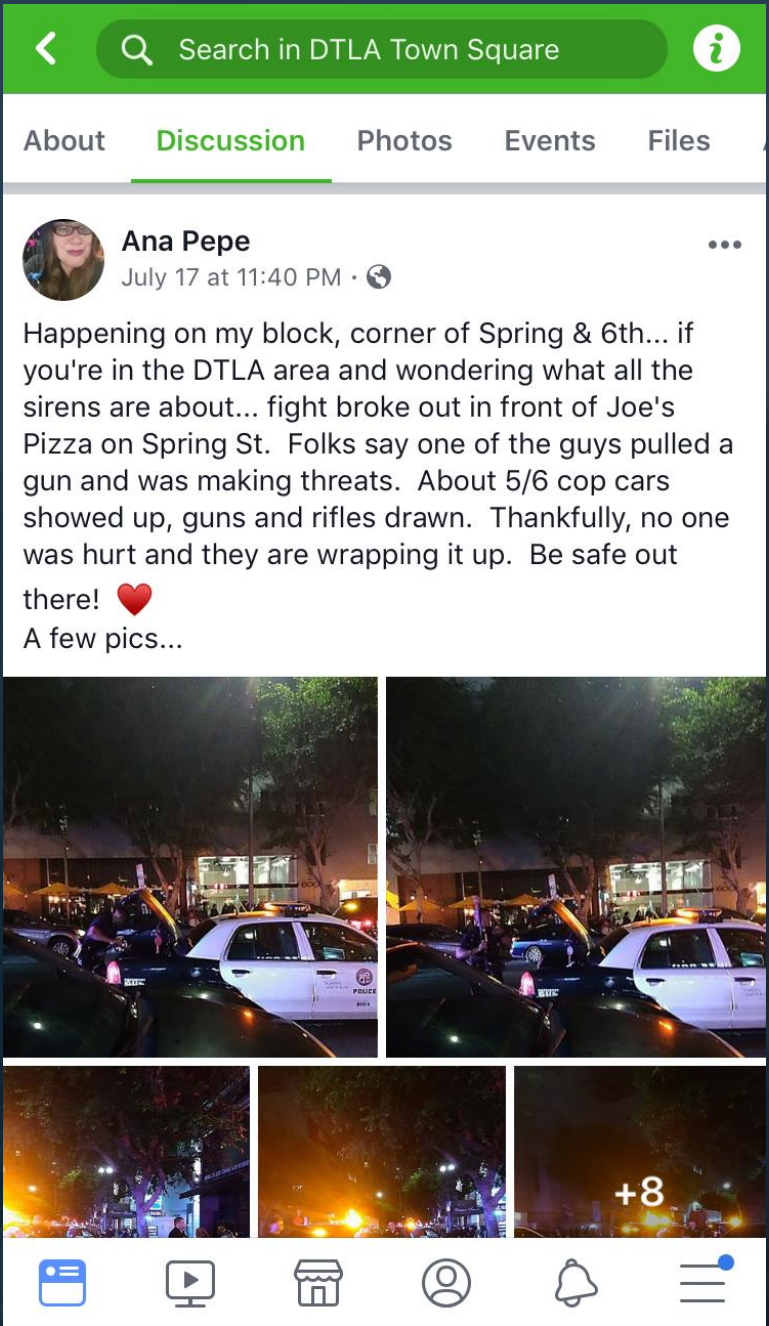
Huge THANK YOU to the unknown good samaritan who gave this piece of shit a dose of his own medicine.



“...Around 2:30 this afternoon in front of SB Grand. This piece of s\*\*\* hit this poor girl and then hit me.”

- Brandon Cohen

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018



“...fight broke out in front of Joe’s Pizza on Spring St. Folks say one of the guys pulled a gun and was making threats.”

- Ana Pepe

6<sup>th</sup> and Spring - July 17<sup>th</sup> 2018



“More than a few cars were broken into last night.”

- Yaebin Kay Bernal

Garage at 8<sup>th</sup> & Olive – August 17<sup>th</sup> 2018



“My wife...accidentally  
kicked one of these used  
needles on the Spring St.  
sidewalk last week.”

- Alex Nice

Spring Street - August 29, 2018



**Betsy Starman** ▶ DTLA Town Square



March 11 · 🌐

From a person who lives in my building: "Just thought I'd mention to everyone that an elderly woman was punched in the head without provocation an hour ago in front of Walgreen's at 5th/Broadway. Assailant was a black male with a shaved head, who walked calmly away afterwards down 5th Street. Police and paramedics were called. So you might want to consider the addition of boxing headgear to your spring fashion accessories." This is really a total bummer that this happened. Grrrrr



Like



Comment



Share



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“...an elderly woman was punched in the head without provocation an hour ago in front of Walgreen’s...”

- Besty Starman

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - March 11<sup>th</sup> 2018



“...glass bottle shattered in front of us...just missing our heads. People behind us said a homeless person threw it at us.”

- Lori Shefa

8<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018



AboutDiscussionPhotosEventsFiles



**Kim Lee**  
June 24 · 🌐

Last night was the moment I realized that, after my lease ends, I may have to REALLY consider leaving DTLA. What happened: 2 guy friends and I were walking from Spring to Freehand. On the way to there, on 8th, I spotted a group of guys on the sidewalk up ahead, they flanked each side. The guys on the left side looked at me then nodded at the guy on the right side, who leaned against a parked car. He then nodded back, looked in our direction (we're still a few yards away), then reached into the car and grabbed something. He turned back to us, barely concealing a knife. I had already been drinking, but my military training and pure instinct kicked in and I just broke and ran across the street. My guy friends yelled after me, following, and I had to yell back "He has a knife. They were going to rob us." Of course the men heard me and you can tell they were aiming to move and attempt elsewhere. I had fun the rest of the night but I couldn't shake the feeling of not being safe, even when I got home. I guess, this isn't a post of me demanding action or yelling at anyone for any perceived lack of action, just....to say I'm starting to give up. If DTLA is going to turn into Arkham because of inaction, then I don't want to be here for that.

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47 Comments 2 Shares

“...I spotted a group of guys on the side walk up ahead...(he) then reached into the car and grabbed something. He turned back to us barely concealing a knife...They were going to rob us.”

- Kim Lee

8<sup>th</sup> & Spring - June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018



“There was a stabbing...  
Be safe out there folks.”

- Joseph Arias

5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - June 30<sup>th</sup> 2018



“This man...was standing in the middle of...(the) intersection throwing rocks at cars and yelling at pedestrians...”

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - July 15<sup>th</sup> 2018



Kirk A. Gaw ► DTLA Town Square



11 hrs · 🌐

The mentally unstable person who tried to attack customers at Dolly Llama on Saturday (as reported here first) returned last night and began kicking in doors at the Hayward and Joe's Pizza. It is reported that he was arrested and taken to jail.



14

20 Comments

“The mentally unstable person who tried to attack customers ...returned last night and began kicking in doors at the Hayward and Joe’s Pizza.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

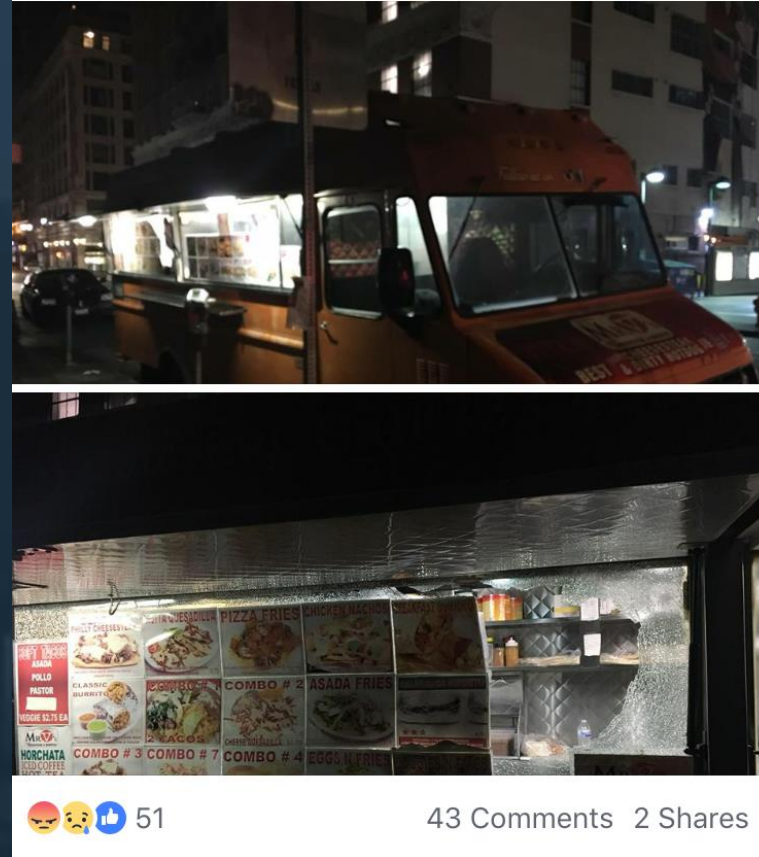
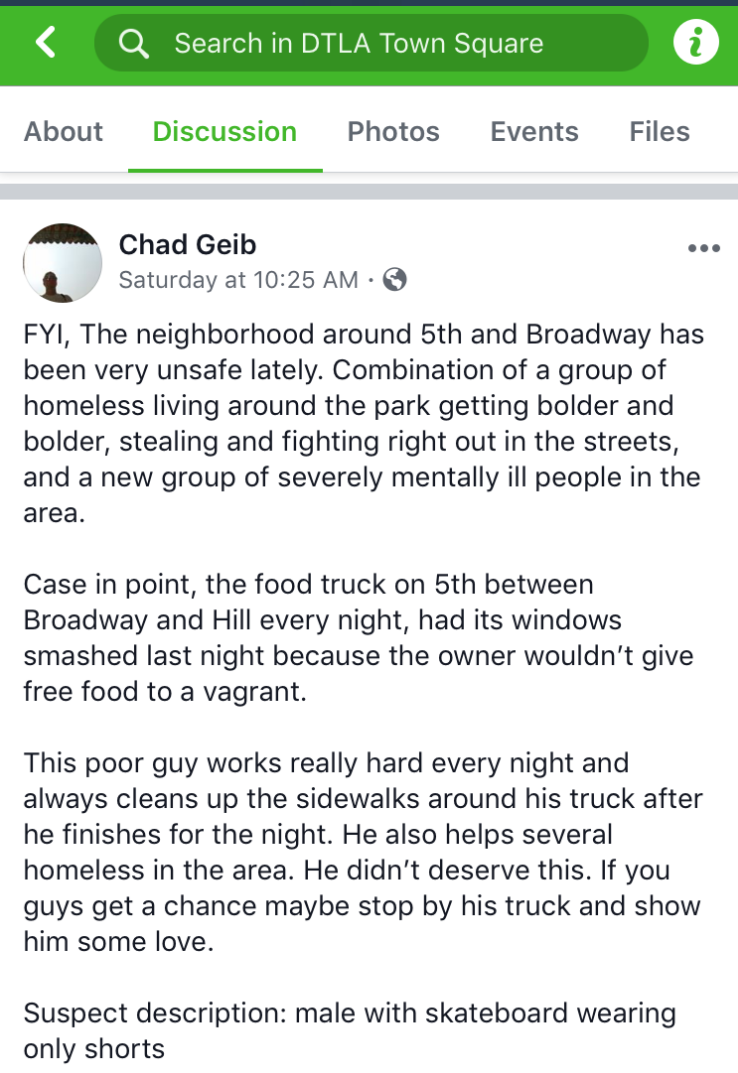
6<sup>th</sup> & Spring St – August 7<sup>th</sup> 2018



“Just witnessed a robbery  
of a man running up  
behind a woman and  
snatched her purse...”

- Jessy Change O'Dell

3<sup>rd</sup> & Spring St. - July 14<sup>th</sup> 2018



“FYI, The neighborhood around 5<sup>th</sup> and Broadway has been very unsafe lately...the food truck...had its windows smashed last night because the owner wouldn't give free food to a vagrant.”

- Chad Geib

## 5<sup>th</sup> & Broadway – August 4<sup>th</sup> 2018

◀  **Kirk A. Gaw** ▶ DTLA Town Square ...  
January 2, 2017 · 🌐

BEWARE: This man attempted to attack me at 4th & Broadway and is extremely violent and dangerous. Evidently, I was walking by while he was stealing a bike. He stopped me and said that I looked at him the wrong way and tried to swing at me before I snapped these pictures. He backed off after I threatened to call the LAPD who were contacted.



 Like

 Comment

 Share

   23

“BEWARE: This man attempted to attack me at 4<sup>th</sup> & Broadway and is extremely violent and dangerous.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

4<sup>th</sup> & Broadway - January 2, 2017



“Be on the lookout for this person. She has assaulted many DTLA residents...”

- Josh Albrektson

May 12, 2017



“Security guard on  
Spring/5<sup>th</sup> just suffered an  
attempted assault by what  
seems to be a transient.”

- Ivan Robles

5<sup>th</sup> & Spring - May 19, 2017

<  Kirk A. Gaw ▶ DTLA Town Square ...  
July 5, 2017 · 🌐

Just wanted to provide photos of this new dangerous transient making himself about the Historic Core. He attempted to assault a Senior Citizen in front of Starbucks at 6th & Spring. The HC BID patrol were right there to witness him. Next, he rammed his shopping cart into the Hayward Manor, Spring St. entrance- glass doors. No damages. This man is out of control and appears violent! #LAPD be on lookout! Slo Martinez



“Just wanted to provide photos of this new dangerous transient... He attempted to assault a Senior Citizen...

- Kirk A. Gaw

6<sup>th</sup> & Spring - June 5, 2017

◀  **Kirk A. Gaw** ▶ DTLA Town Square ...  
November 10, 2017 · 🌐

LA CAFE ATTACK - This man photographed chased a woman from the parking lot beside SB Spring across the busy street into LA Cafe about 5:15pm this evening. The lady ran screaming behind the counter hoping the restaurant staff would help! The suspect ran behind the counter in an attempt to assault her while he was high on drugs! He refused to budge once he got into the food prep area in the kitchen where he tossed food and objects! The brave manager dragged him out with several employees through the side door, through the parking garage and out into the parking lot beside the Spring Tower Lofts! The LA Cafe staff called LAPD 911 and waited with the suspect for a whole 20 minutes until LAPD arrived! Not only was the unsuspecting woman a victim? But, also the LA Cafe Staff who are not really well equipped for these type of "regular" incidents since Prop 47 allowed dangerous criminals to roam free in our DTLA streets! The suspect was handcuffed by 5:35pm and taken in. #ReverseProp47 Miguel Santiago



“This man photographed chased a woman... The lady ran screaming behind the counter hoping the restaurant staff would help! The suspect ran behind the counter in an attempt to assault her while he was high on drugs!”

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - November 10, 2017



“I was held hostage with 6 people by this man at LA Café this morning. He won’t leave and is holding the doors closed on us.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

7<sup>th</sup> & Spring St. - December 7, 2017

<  **Kirk A. Gaw** ► DTLA Town Square ...  
August 11, 2016 · 🌐

2nd Stabbing this Summer at "7-11" on Olive & 7th St.! Apparently on Sunday evening a transient men began fighting over the microwave with the victim at the Mandel Bld. location! While screaming at each other inside the store he pulled a knife out and began to stab repeatedly until the other man fell in submission! The cashier at the store cleaned a pool of blood and has the incident on video! It is unclear from LAPD whether the assailant was caught? The store recently held news when they erected a fence around the corner where transients sat causing discomfort for Mandel residents and crime! A "7-11" Security guard was stabbed in May at the same location.



 Like

 Comment

 Share

“2<sup>nd</sup> Stabbing this Summer at  
“7-11”...he pulled a knife out  
and began to stab repeatedly  
until the other man fell in  
submission!... A “7-11”  
Security guard was stabbed in  
May at the same location.”

- Kirk A. Gaw

Olive & 7<sup>th</sup> Street - August 11, 2016